



John Cox

POINT THREE

The monthly magazine of Toc H

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April 1971

Editorial Office: 41 Trinity Square, London EC3N 4DJ Telephone 01-709 0472.

Editor: Ken Prideaux-Brune

Associate Editor: Huw Gibbs

Designer: Michael F Hill MSTD

Toc H members accept a four-fold commitment:

- 1 To build friendships across the barriers that divide man from man
- 2 To give personal service
- 3 To find their own convictions while always being willing to listen to the views of others
- 4 To work for the building of that better world which has been called the Kingdom of God.

This magazine, which acts as a forum for ideas about Toc H and about the world in which we live, takes its title from the third of these Four Points—to think fairly.

On the cover:

Harmony '71. Further pictures of the Toc H multi-racial play scheme in Huddersfield appear on pages 78 and 79.

Photo: Mike Giddings

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Letters and articles are welcomed but the opinions expressed therein are not necessarily those of the Toc H Movement.

Advertising: Display and classified advertisements are included in this magazine. Full rates and data can be obtained from the editorial office.

Who will push the wheelchair?

Britain is unique in having a blood transfusion service which relies entirely on voluntary donations of blood. In a recently published book* Professor Richard Titmuss demonstrates with a wealth of statistics and comparative tables that the British system is more efficient in every way than any other. He also elaborates his belief that the human animal needs to have opportunities to express altruism, that society needs to be so organised that individuals have the opportunity to give of themselves without reward.

In our affluent, acquisitive society, which sometimes seems to be divided between those who believe in the unhampered cut and thrust of market forces and those who believe that the state is a kind of fairy godmother providing free hand-outs for all, the development of that part of our human nature which inspires us to 'give and not to count the cost' is more important than ever before. If men are to have the opportunity to develop their full potential as 'sons of God' we have to find ways of building a caring community instead of the 'rat race' or the 'hand-out state'. And for this purpose what Professor Titmuss calls the 'gift relationship' is all-important.

It's easy to be cynical about such giving, to see Voluntary Service Overseas as simply one of the passports to a university or a good job and community service as one rung on the ladder to the mayoral chain or the OBE—and here, as elsewhere, it's always easier to see the mote in the other man's eye than the beam in one's own. Pure altruism may be a rare commodity but the fact remains that without the willingness of many thousands of people to give of themselves Toc H, like all the other voluntary societies and clubs, would cease to exist. Without the unnumbered acts of ordinary, unremarkable kindness society would be very different and much less human.

Many people, myself included, have argued that community service should have much more in the way of a political dimension than it has had in the past. In other words our task is not only to assist the individual in times of crisis but also to do what we can to ensure that similar crises do not recur. I am convinced, for instance, that to campaign for the full implementation of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act is an

essential part of our concern for the physically handicapped.

This political dimension, however, is not a replacement for what is sometimes dismissed as 'ambulance work', but an addition to it. However fully the state provides for those unable to provide for themselves the 'good neighbourliness' of those prepared to care for others will still be essential. It could, for instance, be argued that the state should provide every handicapped person with a wheelchair. But a wheelchair isn't much use without someone to push it. And many people believe that the mentally ill should no longer be locked away behind the high walls of a mental hospital but should be treated instead in smaller units more closely integrated with the local community. But this only becomes possible if we are prepared to welcome the mentally ill and offer them our help and our friendship.

Toc H can take pride in the part it played in helping to launch the blood transfusion service. It can take equal pride in all the other ways, large and small, in which it has helped individuals to develop the capacity to care for one another. The need to give is a basic part of human nature but, like our other capacities, it can be either developed and deepened, or ignored and allowed to wither away.

K P-B

* *The Gift Relationship: from human blood to social policy.* Allen & Unwin £3.50 (paperback £1.65).

In next month's Point Three

Ron Evans takes another of his light hearted looks at branch life

Photographs of a Boston ghetto—by the kids who live there

The second article in the series on personalities at headquarters and a longer than usual section of local news and pictures

All in the May issue of *Point Three*

Red for safety

Many branches operate emergency help schemes for the elderly. Byfleet is, perhaps, unique in that it decided to make the launching of such a scheme one of the first jobs it undertook. Ken Prideaux-Brune discussed the system Byfleet uses, which has already been adopted by several neighbouring branches, with Mick Thirkettle, its designer.

At 10 o'clock one Saturday evening an old lady who suffered from Parkinson's disease fell and broke her hip. She knocked on the wall in an attempt to summon assistance but the elderly couple who lived next door didn't hear her until 11 o'clock when they switched off the television. They quickly called in the young man who lived opposite and he phoned the doctor and saw her to hospital.

The young man was Mick Thirkettle, and after this incident it was only natural that he should see the establishment of an emergency help scheme as one of the most urgent tasks facing the newly formed Byfleet branch, of which he is a founder member. 'What really brought the need home,' he told me, 'was the fact that the couple were away from home on both the previous and the following weekend. If the old lady had fallen then she might well have waited for 24 hours or more without help.'

Mick is aged 31 and worked in electronic engineering, both in the army and as a civilian, until eye trouble forced him to change his career. He is now a wine merchant and finds this an admirable way of making and maintaining contacts in the town. 'Everybody seems to come into the shop sooner or later,' he says. He joined Toc H in Hartley Wintney, transferred to Weybridge branch when he moved to Byfleet and then played a leading part in starting a branch—which my wife insisted should be joint—in Byfleet.

The system used in Byfleet has been designed by Mick Thirkettle himself, though he pays warm tribute to the help he received from Barkingside, which runs what is probably the largest and best known of the Toc H emergency help schemes.

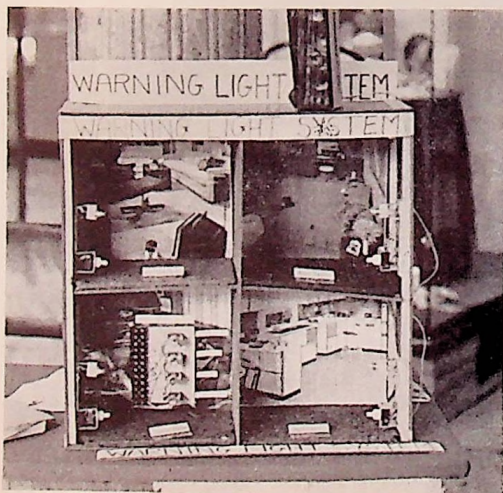
The first requirement Mick has to meet is to ensure that wherever the crisis occurs the householder can operate the emergency light. In his system the red light is operated by push button switches. On average there are 12 switches to a house, and switches are placed so that at no time is the householder more than eight feet from a switch. The system incorporates a repeater light in each room, so that there can be no doubt whether the main light is working, and on a control panel in the entrance hall, so that it is immediately

obvious whereabouts in the house the crisis has occurred. The effectiveness of the Byfleet system is indicated by the fact that on two occasions people blacked out but had time to press the switch before passing out completely.

The red flashing light itself needs to be as eye-catching as possible when in use and as unobtrusive as possible when not in use—lest it advertise the fact that an old person is living on his or her own and thus act as an open invitation to burglars. The light used by Byfleet has two bulbs, flashing at different frequencies, and contained in a box which looks, claims Mick, 'just like another ornament on the window sill'. The power and effectiveness of the light was proved to his satisfaction by a false alarm, which was seen at a distance of 200 yards, in broad daylight, with the sun shining directly on the light.

The system, which is battery operated, consists of components which can be bought cheaply and easily. The cost works out at about £5 a house, and, says Mick, 'I have found that this is a very easy project to

Kingston branch used this model to launch the flashing light emergency help scheme in Kingston.



raise money for. Finance has never been much of a problem.'

The branch received immediate and enthusiastic co-operation from doctors, health visitors, welfare officers and others professionally concerned with the plight of the elderly. Many of the old people themselves, however, were initially suspicious, partly because of the fear that the light would attract burglars and partly because of a concern that installing the system would make a mess in their homes. Once the first few people had been persuaded, however, others were reassured and the majority of the 30 lights fitted in Byfleet in the three years that the scheme has been in operation have been installed at the direct request of the householder concerned.

The installation is carried out, Mick told me, 'by a team of five—two "experts", two people to pass tools and fetch and carry, and one "chatter"'. Mick stressed the importance of the 'chatter' who can see that the workers are allowed to do their job undisturbed and who can also see whether the old person has any other needs or problems with which the branch can help. The most frequent request has been for guidance through the tangled web of the supplementary benefits regulations. The fact that the light is battery operated means that it has to be regularly checked and this enables the branch quite naturally to keep in touch with its 'customers'.

Clearly the success of any emergency scheme of this nature depends on effective publicity, so that anyone who sees the flashing light will know what it means and what to do about it. The local press have been helpful and posters have been widely distributed but the most effective publicity in Byfleet has come from the display at practically every local fete of a working model of the system with posters, similar to those used by Barkingside, telling people who see the flashing light to note the address and contact the police immediately.

The police have co-operated enthusiastically. The branch supply the police with the name and address of every person for whom a flashing light is installed, together with the name of his or her doctor, the name and address of the next of kin and the name and address of someone who holds a key to the front door.

In addition to the flashing light the branch supply yellow fluorescent cards with a large black 'S' on them as a way of requesting non-emergency help from neighbours. These 'shopping cards' ensure that the flashing light is used only in emergencies.

Not content with launching the scheme in Byfleet Mick Thirkettle has also been actively promoting the idea in other places. Schemes in Horsell, Kingston and Guildford are being sponsored by Toc H and Mick has also been asked to help the Round Table launch schemes in Leatherhead and Camberley. In addition to providing working drawings of the installation Mick has in each case attended public meetings to outline the idea and demonstrate his working model. The rapid growth of the scheme owes a good deal to Mick's drive and enthusiasm as well as to his obvious expertise.

In the three years that the scheme has been in operation in Byfleet flashing lights have been used on just three occasions. Is all the effort really worth it? Is an elaborate emergency scheme of this kind really needed? This is a question which can't be answered one way or the other by cold statistics. The fact remains that 30 old people in Byfleet have been given increased self-confidence and, in some cases at least, people who might otherwise have had to be taken into institutional care are able, because help in case of emergency is at hand, to continue to live at home and to retain their independence. And in each of the three cases help was received within minutes. Mick Thirkettle has never forgotten the sufferer from Parkinson's disease who might so easily have lain, undiscovered and unable to move, for 24 hours or more. For him, at least, the need is self-evident.

International Pen Friends

Do you correspond regularly with a Toc H branch overseas? The International Secretary would like to have details of all Toc H 'twinning' arrangements.

Write or phone: Greta Penness
15 Trinity Square, London EC3N 4BS
01-709 0472

Voluntary work at its best

We may sometimes wonder just how worthwhile our projects are from the point of view of those whom they seek to help. Mr W Hume, of the Monyhull Hospital in Birmingham, where a ten day project is taking place this month, has no doubts.

During January last year I was approached by Mr John Mitchell, an organiser of voluntary services attached to the Toc H Movement; he offered the services of a group of young people to Monyhull Hospital during the Easter vacation.

Mr Mitchell was invited to visit the hospital and to see us in our everyday environment; this he did on January 7 when he was able to discuss with me a programme for the proposed project. We arranged that a group of about ten people would spend seven days (April 1-3 and April 6-9) with us.

On the first morning of the project I met the group over coffee: they were either students or teachers, of whom three were men. At the initial meeting the outline of the plan was discussed, and from the outset it was decided that members should work in five separate groups of two persons each.

The meeting was followed by an introduction to the various wards, workshops and other regular activities, during which the members were asked to choose the situation in which they wished to work. From the outset it was gratifying to observe the quick and efficient manner in which each person assessed these various situations and made their choice.

I had been apprehensive when offering free choice, and had half expected all ten to select the glamour of the workshops, where it is comparatively easy to give technical advice and assistance owing to the high intelligence quotient of the people involved; fortunately my fears were soon dispelled.

The first two opted for ward 11, where 51 severely subnormal patients reside; they walked in, introduced themselves, and after a few minutes' discussion with the ward sister they commenced routine chores of combing hair, sponging faces and so on, suggesting to nurses that this was work they could well manage themselves if there were more pressing tasks for the staff elsewhere. Nursing staff took advantage of this offer and were thus free to pursue these other duties which required a higher degree of nursing skill.

After a short while the sound of a guitar and singing came from the sitting room, together with the none too

rhythmical stamping of feet, and we were aware that the volunteers had already begun to integrate.

The next two offered their services to workshop 3, where about 100 people, many severely subnormal, engage in light industrial work, handicrafts and simple creative work. Within a short time they were involved with people—a little physical help here, a gentle reminder there, talking and listening, being generally a friend, never attempting to take over the task, but serving only to prompt and advise.

The third pair decided on ward 10, a ward for 56 dear old ladies, many of near-normal intelligence, but for many of whom old age had brought poor vision, stiff joints, and some degree of immobility. Without any great prompting, these volunteers assessed the situation; they were soon reading aloud, writing letters, providing transport to the shops, and activities in the grounds, talking and making friends—they were especial friends because they were new and appeared to give more easily than the often hard-pressed nurse was able.

Two young men spent many hours among the youngsters of workshop 1, where we admittedly already had group therapy firmly established, but where their keenness and strong desire to help was nevertheless extremely valuable and well appreciated. They were also anxious to help in our own new project, the Working Men's Club but alas we were, owing to lack of funds, unable to purchase the necessary materials.

The last pair chose to give their services to ward 3, a home for 40 severely subnormal men, where the more mundane things such as washing, feeding and tidying figured prominently in the daily itinerary. Yet again it was noticeable that the persons involved tried to solve our people's personal problems, or at least reduce the anxieties caused by these problems. Not just the kindly 'hello there', but a general involvement by talking and listening, offering a strong arm when needed, and never allowing a person to lose dignity even in the most trying circumstances.

The group met on several occasions at hospital functions, where they performed escort duties; yet they were never content only to stand and watch;

The Chameleons

Alec Churcher

they danced at dances, they acted in drama, they played in music and movement; they clearly enjoyed their involvement, and through this, gave great pleasure to many, many people.

It will be obvious that the presence of the Toc H people at Monyhull, as far as our patients are concerned, was a huge success. But what of the attitude of our staff, a factor of crucial importance? This to me was startling: every ward sister or charge nurse who had contact with group leader, Janet Skinner, and her team of volunteers indicated that this was voluntary work at its best, where people gave to others seemingly without effort, certainly without thought of material reward.

In conclusion, it is pertinent to remark that the ties between Monyhull staff and patients alike, and this group, have continued in the form of occasional visits and prolonged correspondence. This is the essence that all parties concerned have expressed in their own ways, the beneficial nature of the operation to themselves as individuals.

¶ We look forward to Easter 1971 when the group leader and hopefully the same group, will again give their valued services to the people of Monyhull.

The postal dispute

We apologise to our readers for the delays in distributing recent issues of *Point Three* as a result of the postal dispute and we express our gratitude to all the many people who helped by distributing copies by hand. The dispute has also made it difficult for us to provide our usual coverage of news and to obtain information for the Obituary and Welcome Point columns. We are particularly grateful to those of our Correspondents who nonetheless found ways of getting information to us.

Because of the postal strike, contributions towards a gift to Angele on her retirement as housekeeper of the Old House will now be acceptable until the end of April. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to 'Friends of the Old House'. Contributions to: Mrs Tett, 23 Money Hill Road, Rickmansworth, Herts.

Cheese and wine

West Central (w) will be holding their annual Cheese and Wine Party at The Holme, Bedford College, Regents Park, London, on July 10, from 6 pm to 9 pm. Tickets, price 50p, can be obtained from: Miss C L Gordon, 36 Heathway Court, Finchley Road, London NW3. This popular social occasion is in aid of Toc H funds.

*Now is the age of the chameleon
For we seem not to know any longer
What is the colour of reality,
And seeking constantly to merge
With the changing patterns of thought and
no-thought
We cease at last to have any colour
That is deeply our own.*

*There are no leaders
For the leaders are now the followers,
Posturing to the rhythm of events
Like the conductor at some nightmare concert
Waving a futile, frantic baton
To the beat of whatever music
He hears or thinks he hears,
While preachers preach only
The acceptable word, and bishops,
Dressed still in purple and fine linen,
Tailor their new theologies
To suit the transient fashions
Of the lost and rootless.*

*The old, robbed of the certainties
They thought their birthright,
Seek reassurance in loudness
Shouting to each other to defend
The overthrown and empty citadels,
Repeating ever more loudly
Their traditional runes which now seem empty
Of everything but sound and fury
And signify nothing,
While the young, costumed like harlequins,
Slap with their wanton wands
At the bladder of pretension
And cry, like jesting Pilate,
'What is truth?'*

Homeless in Britain

An extended campaign is being launched in the West Midlands this month by Christian Action to raise money for four projects in Birmingham. Toc H is actively involved with two of these projects—the Soup Group based on Mark VI and the new night shelter in the crypt of St Chad's Roman Catholic Cathedral, details of which are given here.

In addition to raising an annual income of over £7,000 for these projects the campaign is designed to bring home to the general public the need for increased provision for the homeless. It will also stress the fact that more volunteers are as essential as more money if this major problem is to be adequately dealt with.



The provision of a night shelter for homeless men in the crypt of St Chad's Roman Catholic Cathedral in Birmingham is being jointly sponsored by Toc H, Christian Action, the Samaritans and the cathedral authorities. The project will cost in the region of £4,000 a year and applications for grants are being made to the Birmingham City Council and to the Department of Health and Social Security. In addition this will be one of the projects which will benefit from Christian Action's 'Homeless in Britain' campaign this month.

The need for a night shelter in Birmingham has been amply demonstrated. Two surveys have been conducted by Toc H. The most recent, in August last year, found 59 men sleeping rough within two miles of New Street Station. The Mark VI Soup Group offers soup and friendship to homeless men on two nights each week. Members of the Group state that to their knowledge an average of 30 men a night sleep rough and this refers only to men who know and use the Group's rendezvous. The Salvation Army are forced, through lack of space, to turn away between eight and fourteen men on average every night.

The night shelter will accommodate about 30 men. It is intended to provide purely temporary accommodation and will not normally accept men for more than three nights in any one month. Every effort will be made to help men find permanent accommodation,

if they wish, and to offer advice and practical support. The committee hopes that it will be possible in the future to establish a new long-stay hostel in the city. 'The shelter,' states the committee, 'should be as permissive as is practically possible. It is important, though, that the men are allowed to sleep. The project leader may therefore have to turn out anyone who is violent or rowdy.'

There will be a paid project leader and deputy leader. In addition volunteers will be recruited to help serve food and talk to the men from 10.30 pm, when the doors open, to about 11.30 pm. Certain carefully picked volunteers may also be asked to stay the night. When Mike Tomlinson, during his time as a long-term Volunteer with Toc H, initiated the links with Christian Action in Birmingham, no one can have foreseen that they would lead to this ambitious new project. We cannot, however, limit the scope of our commitment to people, and the night shelter is in fact a logical extension of the concern for homeless men which has become, during the past few years, one of the central features of the life of Mark VI. It is also an encouraging demonstration of co-operation by Toc H, Christian Action, the Samaritans and the Roman Catholic Church, who, though they may be divided over theological formulae, are nonetheless united in their commitment to care for individual human beings.

Some members of the Toc H Soup Group (below) and one of their friends asleep in a derelict house (opposite).



TALKING POINT

Looking for the resurrection

Bob Knight

My theme this month is deliberately, and I hope appropriately, out of this world: the resurrection of Jesus. In Church and on radio and television this event will be considered in many different ways.

Regarded as a supernatural event, predicted by Jesus, to the Christian it is therefore beyond dispute. For those with a legal turn of mind, and many of the earliest theologians had been educated first as lawyers, the resurrection was the climax in the divine drama of redemption. They were careful to show how the principles of justice and mercy were both satisfied.

It has surprised me to discover how dependent Christian teaching has been on legal ideas and language. Jesus drew on home and family relationships, and the natural world for his illustrations. When he spoke about judgement, he often reversed the normal order of things. In interpreting the resurrection, I prefer the core of the orthodox view that it was the final victory of good over evil.

For many, the difficulties about the event are not the interpretation of it. Did it really happen? Such a possibility is so unfamiliar that it is easier to concentrate on the change that took place among the friends of Jesus. From despair and disillusion they became men and women of hope.

The whole of organised Christianity cannot have been built on a deception, either a conspiracy or a fantasy. The resurrection of Jesus could explain it. To be honest, there is a ring of 'special pleading' in the argument. On the other hand, some explanation has to be found for the transformation. If not the resurrection of Jesus, what else can we look for in the early Church?

Suppose we come more up to date and consider the resurrection as a real event which has not only happened to Jesus, but to everyone else who has died. The difficulty then is the close connection of resurrection with other so-called supernatural phenomena. Belief in spirits, and their magical powers for good and evil, was part of primitive religion. The Christian gospel frees men from such superstitions and the fear that goes with them.

Freedom from the fear of death is leading to a new focus of interest in life after death. This may be demanded by our more frequent encounter with tragic death through war and accident. And there can now be a scientific approach to psychic phenomena. Parapsychology has indicated many lines of development. Dean Matthews of St Paul's believed that the next great advance in our knowledge might come in this part of the field.

The Churches' Fellowship for Psychical and Spiritual Studies formed in 1954 has begun to define some of the aspects: extra-sensory perception, precognition, exorcism, trance states and so on. Among the distinguished patrons of the Fellowship was, until he died in a desert canyon in Israel, Bishop James Pike.¹ *The Other Side*² was James Pike's last published book, and is the record of the two and a half years following the suicide of his eldest son, with whom he was on terms of close friendship. Pike became convinced that his son was taking the initiative in trying to communicate with him from 'the other side'.

Most of us are even more sceptical about psychic phenomena than about religious experience. Both are so subjective, open to charlatans and others less clever who simply want to compensate for their insignificance. Pike was a sceptic and carefully documents the evidence. Some of it was seen by others and reported to him, the significance of it being appreciated later. One wonders inevitably whether the book was written to reveal the evidence in the most convincing way possible.

So the reader has to trust everyone concerned, and *The Other Side* is more trustworthy than many similar books. The most sceptical will point out that James Pike, like Barnes of Birmingham and John Robinson of Woolwich, was a bishop whose unorthodox views were bound to be profitable for publisher and author alike.

We may look for evidence of the resurrection of Jesus in the gospels and the early Church. We may be prepared for evidence of other resurrections through psychic phenomena. We may find we have to become more sensitive than we are, to receive and recognise

The Area that is not

Some comments on Toc H in the Northern Area by Tom Spear, of Wearside District.

such evidence. Without precautions and expert guidance, any investigation can be hazardous. In the end, we may look for the resurrection that will happen to every one of us. The time scale within which we look for the meaning of things then opens out considerably. Which of our objectives are then seen to be worth fighting for? Which frustrations could we then afford to smile at: even have a good laugh about?

- 1 *Search*, by Diane Kennedy Pike, published by W H Allen at £1.80, is an account of this journey.
- 2 *The Other Side*, by James Pike, published by W H Allen, £1.75.

Welcome Point

The following branches elected new members during February:

- 15-Pocklington (j).
- 3-Dundee (j).
- 2-Richmond (Surrey) (j).
- 1-Brandon (w), Middlewood (j), Wanstead & Woodford (m).

We extend a warm welcome to the 23 new members.

No sign of a generation gap as 85 meets 3½. The editor's son Hugh listens intently to the Founder Padre as they shake hands. The photo was taken after Tubby had baptised Hugh's baby brother, John.



A fresh start is necessary in the Northern Area. The impetus for this fresh start is surely the recommendation by the Central Council of an experiment in decentralisation in the Northern Region, which includes the Northern Area—the Area which is not.

This fact of non-existence applies particularly to my own District, Wearside, but our neighbours could also rapidly reach the same depleted condition. The staff left to work in the Area require the utmost co-operation if we are to rebuild in the North East the strength and enthusiasm shown some 15 to 20 years ago. This is the heritage which now calls for reevaluation if we are to transmit a worthwhile Toc H to the next generation.

Only in grandeur do the projects developed in Surrey surpass the achievements of the North East years ago, when the term for such efforts was the humble Toc H 'jobs'. Used properly decentralisation affords the means to apply the different treatment which the Area requires—not to change policies but to promote them as the situations and locations demand.

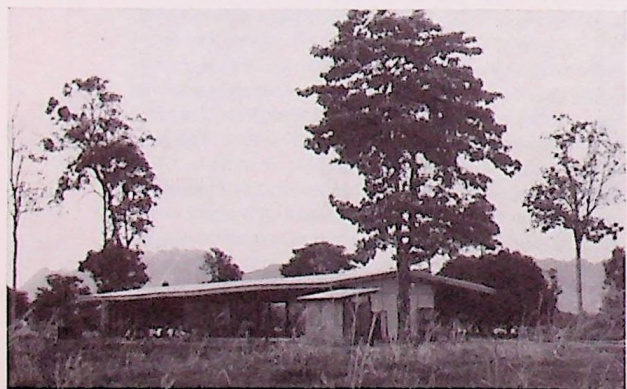
Sunderland branch persevere worthily with their compassionate concern for the Good Companions, the physically handicapped and others of their less fortunate neighbours. Stanley branch, the only real strength in the District over the past five years, last summer entertained 70 members of the Washington physically handicapped club, together with 16 people from Newcastle, after they had visited Stanley Zoo. A concert and slide show was much appreciated by a total of over 100 people. Ryton branch, too, have helped with Ursula Lefroy's work in Newcastle, but while Ursula and Adrian Dudman have begun again in Newcastle and Washington the support from the rest of the membership has been woefully weak. The least which those left can do is to support financially, till it hurts, the efforts of the splendid few in the Area who are prepared to take the lead in building bravely on the ruins. Decentralisation will necessarily mean responsibility for budgetting, and for providing leadership and encouragement.

Don't let's remain the Area which is not. Despondency begone! Let us revive our spirit so that we become *The Area*, and let 1971 be a new beginning.

Work camp in the paddy fields



Erica Rawlinson is a Toc H Volunteer, at present serving in Thailand with Voluntary Service Overseas. In her second article for *Point Three* she writes about her experiences at a Thai work camp.



You don't need to know the language to make friends with children. And most children like posing for their photograph (above). The tangible result of the work camp. The school stands, with its roof on, the floor concreted and the sides left open to let in the air (left).

Thailand is still very much the land of paddy-fields, water-buffaloes and irregular blue mountains—once you leave the hum and bustle of Bangkok with its swinging sophistication, hot dusty streets and crowded markets. I really appreciated this contrast when, during the long summer holidays, I was sent 'up-country' to help with a building project in a tiny village called Khao Din Dy.

The village itself scarcely deserves the name since it consists of only three houses in a clearing in the paddy-fields, surrounded by scattered trees and then the hills. In the centre of the clearing, which seemed to be the general meeting place, there was a beautiful flame-of-the-forest tree ablaze with its brilliant red flowers, but the fields around were yellow and parched as it was the height of the dry season.

One of the houses was the temple, with a corrugated iron roof and three monks; the second, where we stayed, was again corrugated iron with slats of wood for the wall, and a bare wood floor where we slept, with large cracks through which we could see all the village hens scratching around underneath. The third was a little, open-fronted coffee shop with a beaten earth floor, which sold coke, livid green and red fizzy drinks, ancient looking cakes and various dishes such as rice and Thai-stew.

However, I think I should explain a little more clearly how the work camp came about in the first place. Voluntary work, or in fact any kind of social work, is a comparatively new idea in Thailand, mainly because of the Buddhist belief in everyone having a certain lot in life, and secondly because the family is a very strong unit and the members support each other in times of need or distress. Charity exists, but mainly in the form of making merit—giving to the monks on special feast days, or to the poor.

In the past few years, though, there have been more efforts in the field of social work, especially in help from Bangkok to the country areas, which may also have political undertones in trying to draw the country together and make it less susceptible to subversion. By now many students have taken part in various work camps, but they are still only a small proportion of the whole and most have still no experience, and often amazingly little idea of the country outside Bangkok.

In the camp I went on, there were about 60 of us—students from the two main universities in Bangkok, and three of us foreigners. The students were all very enthusiastic and several had been to other camps. They were much more lively than the general run of Thai students and there were some ardent non-conformists—such as Pi-Dter who was long-haired and rebellious, and had to drive taxis, as well as studying, to keep himself at university. Chor, however, was a complete contrast—a typical Oxford scholar, dark,



Mixing concrete is back-breaking work at the best of times. In the blazing sunshine of Thailand it's tougher than usual. Some of the 60 volunteers on the camp at work on the floor of the school.

serious and handsome, and always sitting reading Marx or Svetlana's Letters. Then there was Pi-Pat, an ex-AFS student, who was always sending SOSs to Bangkok for meat, biscuits, and sweets to supplement our rather meagre rations. U-wie was another of the leading characters, who had been to many camps and who was universally liked and respected. He had just graduated and was about to study diplomacy in Toulouse, and every evening he would play his guitar and sing all kinds of folksongs when the rest of us were drooping after the day's work. Finally there was Pi-Luey, the camp leader, who had a mania for meetings and conferences—hardly a day went by without one, and one of the funniest incidents was on the last night when Pi-Luey, with great ceremony, was to light the camp fire with a flaming torch, but spoke for so long that by the end of his speech the torch was charred and dead.


The camp was quite well organised, except that every decision had to have a meeting and be decided democratically; and the students were keen to get to know the villagers as well as getting on with the job which was building a school. We worked in four groups which rotated (theoretically anyway) doing cooking, odd jobs, building and public relations. This last was much criticised by the builders and came to be considered a soft option—sitting under a tree eating

mangoes and chatting to the villagers in outlying areas. I stayed with the building group most of the time, because the communication problem could be solved more easily by commonsense than in instructions of how to cook curry or do odd jobs. I did do public relations once, but found that all I could contribute was smiles, which got a bit forced after three hours in the sun.

The building was really quite strenuous work, since we had only the most primitive tools and were working all day in the blazing sun. An army bulldozer had levelled the ground, but we had to carry on from there, with the engineering students in charge. The corner posts were driven in by experts and the rafters nailed on while we, the unskilled labour, dug earth from the mountain, loaded it in wicker baskets and then spread it on the ground and thumped it with great chunks of wood to make it flat. We carried roof tiles, and brought water from the well (transported in an ox cart—by manpower), baskets of stones or sand as required, and shovelled and mixed concrete until our backs ached and our hands were sore. Towards the end, we had to work by lamplight after a freak monsoon downpour had washed away half the floor. At last the school was standing with roof and two end walls complete and a beautiful concrete floor, and we celebrated, inevitably, by holding a meeting in it.

The villagers were at first rather aloof and suspicious of everyone, but gradually they drew nearer and would give us presents of bananas or mangoes, and would sit at the edge of the camp fire and watch with great interest. Later some of them helped with the building and seemed pleased to be included. Many of them looked very old and leathery, and many were undernourished. Some of the medical students held 'clinics' and gave out vitamin pills and general advice, which was highly esteemed. One of the strangest things was that some of the villagers thought I was a strange kind of Bangkok Thai, and the children were quite shy until one day I wore a 'passin' (a long cotton skirt which all the Thai women wear) and I suppose this, together with the straw hat which everyone wore to keep the sun off, made me look quite approachable. They were still very wild though, and would play for a bit and then run off and watch from a distance.

Altogether it was an unforgettable experience and quite an insight into the problems of poverty and ignorance in village life. It was a great contrast too with my usual academic life in Bangkok, and although I was rather slow on the uptake because of language, I think it was well worth it. From my own point of view, I certainly gained a lot, from experience in mixing concrete to walking through a stubby rice field in the hot sun, barefoot and eating a juicy mango, and it was interesting to see how many common factors there are when any group of people start doing some kind of work like this together.



**Make Hovis
your
daily bread.**

NEWSPOINT

The year in Wessex

Anne Braybrook, *Point Three* Correspondent

This last year has been a varied and interesting one for our District of Toc H which stretches from Christchurch, through Bournemouth to Swanage, and northwards to Verwood.

The year started with a supper evening in January which raised £17 for the family purse. The dinner was organised and cooked by members of Poole branch and the entertainment was provided by the Bournemouth Volunteers. This idea has been developed into a supper concert party by the Volunteers, who organised two more evenings. A chicken supper was held in March and a salad supper in December. The hilarious entertainment was enjoyed by all present.

The year continued with a Toc H week held in May. Martha was collected, with the Exhibition kit, from the Croydon Centre. The first Saturday we organised ourselves on Horseshoe Common in the centre of Bournemouth for an open air exhibition showing the work of Toc H in our District, the idea being to bring Toc H to the public. The day was fine and many people stopped and talked. The next day we took Martha and our District minibus to the Bournemouth promenade for the District wheelchair push. The push (a sponsored walk with a difference) was between Bournemouth and Boscombe piers; each pusher was sponsored and we raised over £60 for District funds and I am sure pushers and disabled thoroughly enjoyed themselves: the afternoon ended with a picnic in King's Park. During the rest of the week Martha appeared in Parkstone, Upton, Poole, and Swanage. It gave us the opportunity to come into contact

with the public and we were able to hand out over 2,000 BBC appeal leaflets.

The Bournemouth Volunteers known locally as Vol-Toc (the name was used after meeting the South African Vol-Toc members who visited our District in October 1969) ran a camp for underprivileged children who would not normally go away on holiday. The branches in four Districts provided the money for all 26 children. Brian Braybrook, chairman of Vol-Toc, organised the camp. The children came from Southampton, Bristol, London, and Christchurch, the names being provided by a local member in contact with the welfare services. The camp was a great success and we were blessed with mostly fine weather. We drove to Milford-on-Sea where the local branch gave us lunch. One child was heard to say 'Please, miss, can we come to this restaurant every day as the food's smashing.' So much for our camp fire cooking. We went to Salisbury and saw the cattle market and visited Old Sarum. Old Sarum provided one of the best afternoons for all as helpers got a well earned rest whilst the little dears wore themselves out running up and down the earthworks. The two minibuses (one, so kindly loaned by a youth club, unfortunately developed a flat tyre) did us proud. The children enjoyed singing contests between the two buses, trying to shout out the other bus in quiet residential districts. They went to the beach at Studland and then shopping for gifts for mum in Swanage and tea was provided by Swanage (w). On the Friday we went to Southampton to visit a bakery, the zoo, and the Hospital

Broadcasting Association Unit, which is in the grounds of Mark V. On arrival all the helpers went into the Mark, leaving me with 29 children stripping the fruit trees of all fruit. Having lined all the children up I stood between them and the trees and gave a lecture on social behaviour whilst waiting for the others to rescue me. We were given lunch in the Mark and tea in the Scout hut in the grounds. Camp fire was held three times during the week and at the last one we all felt rather sad to be parting from the children we had come to know so well.

Boscombe branch provided an outing for a party from the Portsmouth Workshop for the Blind. The blind and partially sighted who come and stay in Bournemouth for that week enjoy going on the outing as many have visited this area in the past.

SUPPORT FOR NEW CHESHIRE HOME

Plans are well advanced for the opening of a new Cheshire Home in Poole, Dorset. The home of a former Medical Officer of Health for Poole has been acquired but a considerable amount of money is required for building an extension to the house and for alterations to the existing premises. It is no surprise to find Toc H among the local organisations that have promised support for this new venture. The women's branch in Parkstone have started a collection of trading stamps and they hope that this will prove as successful as the collection for Heatherley Cheshire Home in Sussex in which Toc H took part a couple of years ago.

CROYDON'S CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN

The charmingly named Featherbed Lane is an oasis of rural peace on the edge of the London Borough of Croydon. But this area of quiet woodland beauty has become a dumping ground for rubbish of all kinds. At the instigation of Toc H member 'Peter' Putwain more than 50 local people have been engaged on a massive clean-up campaign in an effort to restore Featherbed Lane to its former beauty. Among

those involved, in addition to Toc H members, were members of the Forestdale Residents' Association, volunteers from the Croydon Community Service Agency and sixth formers from Whitgift School. Lorries were supplied by Croydon's Cleansing Department. Found cluttering up this small stretch of England's green and pleasant land were 11 abandoned cars and enough domestic refuse to fill two lorries.



£600 raised in three weeks

In just three weeks Toc H in Criccieth raised £600 for the purchase of an electro-cardiograph machine for the use of the town's doctors. The machine, which can detect early signs of heart trouble, cost £250 and the balance of the money raised is being put into a special fund to meet the costs of servicing the machine. According to the senior medical practitioner in Criccieth: 'The machine has already proved of great value and during the coming years I am sure it will prove its weight in gold.' Although Toc H instigated the campaign it was in reality a combined effort by all the organisations in the town. One of the most successful of the money raising efforts was a sponsored walk undertaken by members of the local

youth club, which raised £120. 'All Toc H did,' said branch chairman Mervyn Peate at the gathering at which the machine was presented, 'was organise and plan the project; it is you, the people of Criccieth and district, whose generosity was simply fantastic.'

Poperinge band to visit London

The band of St Stanislaus College, Poperinge, are planning to spend the week beginning June 30 in London. The 80 members of the band range in age from 8 to 18. They will probably appear at a Folk Festival in Hackney and will also perform on Tower Hill during their week in London.

Junior Section learns to help

The Hythe Junior Section of Toc H, the formation of which was reported in *Point Three* last September, has just produced a report on its first six months. The Junior Section is for boys aged 12 to 14 and at present has seven members. It has elected its own officers, the chairman being Peter Ralph. 'We are proud to be part of this great Movement,' says the report. 'We have learnt to help others within our means and also to try and live by the Four Points.' The boys have helped with jumble sales and parties for the blind organised by Hythe branch. They have 'adopted' three old ladies and have chopped wood, done gardening and gone shopping for them. They organised a bazaar last November, which raised £58. And they took part in the branch's World Chain of Light service last December. In addition to their practical work the boys receive instruction in skills such as woodwork. Their greatest ambition during the next six months is to get to Dor Knap.

It's a knock-out

Quizzes are a regular feature of many branch programmes. Northampton District Team decided to take this one step further by organising an inter-branch knock out quiz competition, the final of which is being held at a District get together this month. The District Team took the uniquely courageous step of announcing from the first that 'all ten branches MUST enter'. No riots ensued so far as we could discover. Teams of four were entered from each branch and other members of the branch playing 'away' were encouraged to go along and support their team. The questions, which were devised by Ron Lawrence, a headmaster, were on current affairs, the bible and Toc H. In addition to providing opportunities for branches to get together the quiz may also prove to have been an informal but effective method of Toc H training.

Hair curlers for lady aged 103

Olive Tennant

Alderman Clarke House is a modern home for elderly ladies. Cheerful sitting rooms lead off from the main lounge, which, besides a good TV set and a piano, has a budgie twittering happily in a smart cage. Norwich branch has paid several informal visits there recently which have followed the usual pattern. An hour thumping the piano and singing the old songs, then supervising afternoon tea.

The grand Christmas party went well, with chocolate biscuits and ice cream on the menu. It seems that old people and children have much in common. This we discovered when our youngsters joined us for the fun. In fact once a toffee or two had broken their shyness the children were as good as a variety act.

The photograph shows our Toc H family at the birthday party of Mrs Harriet Bacon, aged 85, and Mrs Alice Edmonds who is 103. The branch gave Mrs Bacon a large box of chocolates—she seemed as pleased with the box as with its contents, saying that it would be nice for her handkerchiefs. Mrs Edmonds is very particular about setting her hair at bed time, so she received a boudoir cap and hair

curlers. In spite of her 103 years she insisted on standing up at the table and modelling her new cap so that everyone could see and admire it.

The branch finds this a very pleasant way of giving personal service, and here we would like to remind other branches that it is the *time* we give that is so much valued by the elderly.



Dor Knap and Alison House, April-July 1971

Toc H bookings for the next three months, both at Dor Knap and Alison House, are repeated below. If you would like to join any of these parties, contact Tommy Trinder at Dor Knap, or, for Alison House, Joyce Green at headquarters.

Dor Knap

Western Region (Sat/Sun)	April 17-18
Beds, Herts & North Bucks	23-25
Chippenham and Llanarmon-yn-Ial	30-May 2
Isle of Wight	May 7-9
Central weekend, 'Race Relations'	14-16
Oxford & Thames Valley and Fairfield	21-23
BANK HOLIDAY SPRING FESTIVAL (Sat/Mon)	29-31
OPEN DAY Monday 31	
South Western Area	June 4-6
West Surrey	11-13
South Wales	18-20
Southern Area	25-27
Cyprus project	July 2-4
Bristol District	9-11
Handicapped Cotswold holiday (Sat/Sat)	17-24
Music & arts week. Rev J Hull and Col J Davies (apply)	24-31
Bob Knight, HQ) (Sat/Sat)	

Alison House

Spring Parks District (Fri/Mon)	May 28-31
'Accent on Poetry.' Leader Keith Rea	June 5-6
North Wales Area	11-13

Sponsors needed for London to Poperinge walk

Three young volunteers from Surrey have been pounding out the miles of training necessary to complete a London to Poperinge walk commencing on April 22.

The determined walkers are Mark Secker, Ricky Lowe and one girl, 'Jackie' Gardner, who feels that because of her sex she may be expected to drop out first. 'I ask for no favours and I am determined to finish even if it's on my knees,' she told us.

The walk, in aid of project funds in Surrey for 1971, will begin at Talbot House, Tower Hill, at 10 am and finish at Talbot House, Poperinge, the birthplace of the Movement. The walkers aim to raise all of the £1,500 needed to finance this year's programme. Explaining the need for sponsors, Mark said, 'If we can find 1,500 people who will sponsor us for one new penny a mile we will raise what we need and have a little to spare for next year's work too.'

Article one in a series of pictorial introductions to members of staff at headquarters and in the regions.

Next month: Leadership sideways.

Faces behind the figures

Huw Gibbs

Few members have the opportunity to discover at first hand the amount of work handled daily by the Finance department at headquarters.

Here, it might be said, is the pivot around which revolves most of the policy decisions being taken today. The staff of seven and three part-timers, making it the largest single department on Tower Hill, possesses an impressive accumulated knowledge of finance and properties throughout the country, most of which is dispensed quietly and effectively to the benefit of everybody without being immediately noticeable.

Under its proper title of Finance and Properties Department, Finance Secretary Keith Rea is responsible for almost $\frac{3}{4}$ million pounds worth of property, and its upkeep, as well as the daily routine of receipts and payments, branch property vested in the Corporation, staff salaries, expenses and cash dealings. Only one third of the time is taken by membership giving while another quarter is spent on property business alone.

It is not unusual for the staff of this busy office to turn from discussing a plumbing job at a Mark to wrangling over the purchase of a new vehicle and then immediately into an involved discussion with solicitors about legal documents and legacies. The work done is probably more complex than any other department on Tower Hill.

This is also where Deeds of Covenant and the personal accident insurance scheme are controlled. No allowance is made, incidentally, in the premiums charged to branches, for the cost of administering the scheme at headquarters.

Another section is fully occupied supervising and advising on the Marks accounts. And yet another in control of turnover and preparation of figures for the forces' clubs in Germany.

For most of us the only visible sign that there is an accounts department is the excellent newsletter 'Angles' produced by Keith Rea for HAT's. One of his regrets is that there is too little time for him to meet honorary treasurers regularly and attend training sessions, but in spite of this there is no excuse for

members not being more aware of the time and devotion given to the Movement by the accounts staff.

As a member of the small staff team at HQ, Keith also plays an important part in the general running of the Movement. His contributions to conferences and weekends have earned him a reputation for closely argued debate on a wide range of subjects, and are proof of the value of his 26 years association with Toc H.

Keith Rea — First joined the staff in 1936. He is 50 and a founder member of Kingsbury branch. Part of his work involves attending meetings of the Council for Voluntary Welfare Work (CVWW), the body which supervises the underwriting of 90 per cent of our forces' clubs deficit.

Keith feels that it is a good thing for 'people at the top' to try other areas of work, and true to his principles he has recently asked to be given a regional responsibility eventually. 'Our first consideration is service to the Movement,' he explained, 'and it is not demotion to move from a position at HQ to one in the field.'

He is keen on training for local officers, particularly treasurers, and is convinced that Toc H needs strategy rather than a policy. 'Any development must be related to membership,' he feels 'and by that I don't necessarily mean existing members. Quite often I think of Toc H as the organisation which prevents a situation from becoming a crisis, so nobody is aware of what we have done. In any new situation it is the gifts of the members which should be employed.'

Arthur Noble has worked in the accounts office as Asst. Accountant and cashier for seven years. A member since 1930, he came to the staff from textile engineering, and since then claims to have written 40,000 receipts. He is married and lives at East Grinstead. He has two sons.

Joan Webb is Asst. Accountant with special responsibility for the Marks. She joined us two years ago and





Above: from left to right, Arthur Noble, Les Gosden, Benja Waite, Mary Bates, Harold Humphreys, Joan Webb, Molly Wheatley.

Below: Keith Rea.



It is Deaville, a very ancient name still carried forward by the family and well known along the Derby/Staffs border. Before joining the staff she was Secretary to Southend High School for Girls. She is a keen Methodist. Her present job is Accounts Department Secretary.

Molly Wheatley, wife of our Registrar Les, is well known to members in the Nottingham and Newcastle areas, as well as South London where they began their family task as area staff. Molly started part-time at HQ during the Jubilee preparations in 1965 and her work now is mainly concerned with members' Deeds of Covenant. She has a son, Peter and a daughter, Anne, who is a professional ballet dancer.

Harold Humphreys is the other part-timer. He is 73 years old and deals mainly with vehicle purchase and insurance. For 42 years he served with Barclays Bank, managing three branches, the last being at Rochford, Essex. He has also worked for the Red Cross and in the finance office of his local council. One part of his varied career of which he is very proud is the year 1918 spent on the Somme as a Lieutenant in the newly founded Tank Corps. His home is at Haywards Heath.

Les Gosden, recently returned to full health again, is the man who looks after salaries, assists with Deeds and 'anything else that happens to be going'. He was warden at Mark XX, Putney, for a time and was responsible for raising £1500 for the extension there. He is 60 and joined the staff in 1936. His home is at Hersham, Surrey. He is occasionally assisted by Grace Adams.

George Barnett—a profile and photograph appeared in the March issue—is one of those people who has a point, which he makes clearly and is prepared to stick to it. He comes to his new job as Accountant from a competitive business world and is 'shocked to discover the lack of support for the work of Toc H. This is a subject which ought to be put across by HAT's much more strongly,' he told me.

was previously Office Supervisor at Gorrings. One of her interests is the Scout Movement and for seven years she worked at Scout HQ, during the period acting as Cub Master to a pack of handicapped youngsters at Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton. She now lives at Crutched Friars House.

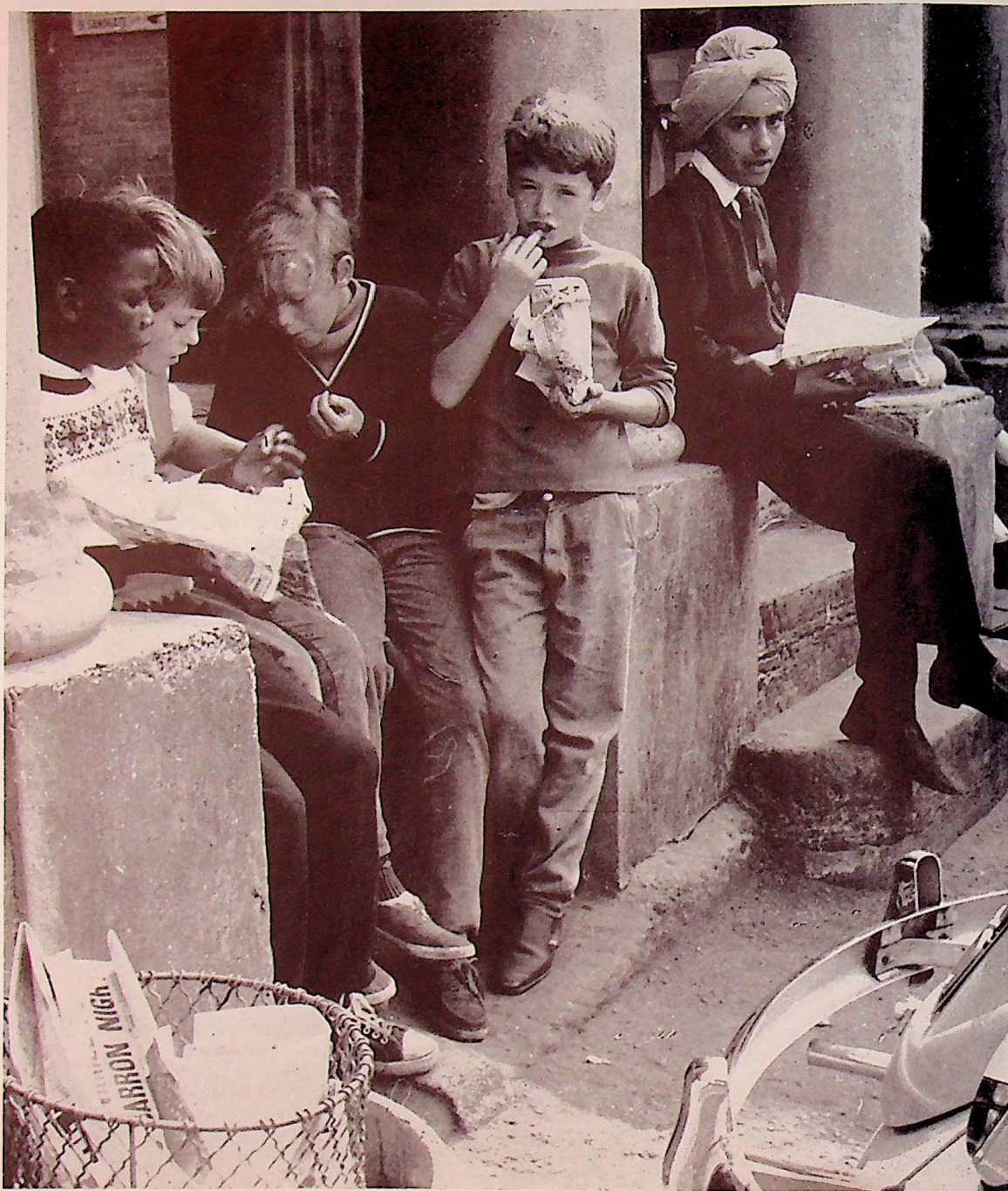
Mary Bates comes to the staff from the 'rag trade', described by some as the most cut-throat business of all, and is completely sold on the atmosphere at 15 Trinity Square. 'Life here is so pleasant,' she says. 'People are more tolerant and human.' Mary is 34 and single and is responsible for the machine accounting system. She is a trained National 32 Operator and her contribution to the department's overall smoothness is considerable.

Benja Waite is the newest recruit to the accounts staff. She started last year. Her Christian name is short for Benjamin, chosen for her because she is the youngest child. Her second name is interesting too.

Harmony '71

Summer project in Huddersfield

Photos: Mike Giddings



During this International Year for Racial Harmony we had hoped to publish a survey of Toc H involvement in the community relations field. Important work is being done at Talbot House, Tower Hill, the Bristol Centre and some of the Marks, work which has been featured in *Point Three* during the past couple of years. What has emerged from our enquiries, however, is that Toc H branches are doing practically no work of this kind. We should be delighted to discover that our enquiries were inadequate and we invite any branches which are doing race relations work to send us details.

Meanwhile we feature this month a summer programme in Huddersfield, which has been run for the past three years in co-operation with the community relations office.

The Huddersfield play project, like other similar schemes, provides opportunities for children to widen their horizons. It also aims, Mike Giddings, one of the leaders of the project, told us, to increase understanding and tolerance by dividing the children into small, racially mixed groups. The pictures on these pages illustrate better than any number of words the success of this aspect of the project.

Last summer volunteers recruited by Toc H, under the leadership of Mike Giddings and Barbara Bell, a Community Service Volunteer, took 20 children, aged 12 to 14, to camp for a fortnight at the Youth Hostel in Saltburn. This opportunity to get right away from the tensions of city life proved a valuable addition to the summer project.

Since the project began in 1968 the education authority has backed it generously and perhaps the best evidence for the success of the project is the fact that the education authority has this year decided to run it on a much larger scale, with the help of a grant from the government's Urban Aid Programme. The project will operate from five centres in different parts of the city, and will incorporate the language school which has also been run in Huddersfield for the past two summers. Two of the centres, in areas with a high proportion of Asian children, will offer intensive language teaching and at all the centres the games, outings and other activities will be seen as an informal way of helping Asian children to increase their knowledge of English.

Toc H has been asked to run a camp during the three weeks of the project, to which any of the centres can send children, and also to staff one of the centres. Volunteers will be recruited nationally, as in the past,

but Mike Giddings tells us that he is very anxious to find a number of local volunteers this year and hopes that this may make it possible to maintain contact with some of the children throughout the year.

Fish and chips are obviously the recipe for good community relations in Yorkshire (left). The train takes kids away from the smoke of Huddersfield to camp at Saltburn (below).



Letters

The best known unknown Movement

The 1970 edition of Collins English Dictionary defines Toc H as a 'Society organised to keep alive the spirit of comradeship in the war of 1914-18'. It is hardly surprising therefore that *TV Times* should describe us as an ex-service organisation.

While it is undeniable that our Movement was born out of the conscious desire to ensure that the spirit of wartime friendships was turned into something more positive when peace came, the fact remains that over 50 years later it is downright absurd to allow the public to think of us as merely some sort of ageing old comrades' association. This sort of image instantly identifies us, quite wrongly, with organisations which have entirely different purposes and aims to our own and unless we destroy this 'ex-service' myth once and for all we can hardly expect to attract the younger element in any great numbers.

One thing we are extremely bad at is public relations, as if we are frightened to tell other people who and what we are. It is no use moaning about falling membership if we are continually being apologetic about our existence: that sort of attitude is the worst sort of advertisement. While it is true that many branches do get a great deal of local publicity, the inescapable fact is that much more remains to be done to educate the populace about us.

John Morgan *Ruislip, Middx*

Breaking more new ground

I have belatedly seen the February *Point Three*. What a joy it is to be able to agree unreservedly with a practical and constructive editorial. I hope your lead is taken up as widely as it deserves.

George Davis *Newbury, Berks*

We regret to announce the death, in February, of Dudley Matthews, OBE, Honorary Commissioner of Toc H Australia from 1947 until 1950.

And of the following members: In December: Olive A Rae (Brentwood). **In January:** Sydney A Bramley (Borough Green), Arthur H Griffin (North Walsham), Ethel Johnston (Shirehampton), Maude Makinson (Westminster). **In February:** Arthur R Bradley (Buckland-in-Dover), Leonard Carman (Mildenhall), George Heir (Sheringham), Francis A Hunt (Kent Area), Leonard H Wyles (Haywards Heath).

We give thanks for their lives.

Obituary

Barbara Vise

Colin Wintle

Barbara Vise, who had edited *The Log* for Toc H Women's Association for 13 years, was killed instantly in February in a motor accident near the charming country cottage in Berkshire which had been her home for several years. Her editorship ceased only when *The Log*, together with the *Toc H Journal*, came to an end some three years ago, to be replaced by *Point Three*.

A journalist to the very marrow, Barbara brought a passionate enthusiasm to her vocation, together with a proper respect for the disciplines it imposes. She was persistent, enquiring—and could on occasion be charmingly stubborn—and even under emotional stress, professional and personal, she was always able to rally her innate fair mindedness.

Much of Barbara's earlier work was for women's magazines and shortly after the war she was fiction editor of *Modern Woman*. She herself wrote fiction up to the end of her life, mostly romantic short stories, for the *London Evening News* and for syndicated services to magazine groups overseas. The typewriter in her cottage at Moulsoford-on-Thames was kept busy.

For many years she was press adviser to the National Association of Mixed Clubs and Girls' Clubs (since 1961 it has been named the National Association of Youth Clubs) and acted in a similar capacity for other clients, mostly voluntary bodies. Then came her appointment, in 1958, jointly with myself, as public relations officer to the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools, which was destined to lead to her marriage with Tim Dealtry, the Association's secretary. Alas, Barbara and Tim were happily together for a sadly short time. After Tim's death Barbara made her permanent home at their weekend cottage. It says a great deal for her spirit and resilience that she—a townswoman through and through—adapted to village life and found manifold interests there.

Readers of *The Log* will remember Barbara's 'leader' essay on page one of each issue. I used to tease her about her 'cosy little sermons' but knew full well that the style and content were utterly appropriate. She must have produced nearly 80 of them during her editorship. None of them would win the Nobel prize for literature but they succeeded where fine writing so often fails. In very human style they commended to her readers something of cheerfulness, zest, sincerity, endeavour, inspiration, humanity and, yes, the Kingdom of God.

Small Advertisements

Small advertisements must be received (with remittance) by the first day of the month preceding publication. The charge is 3p a word (minimum 30p). *Point Three Magazine*, Toc H, 41 Trinity Square, London EC3N 4DJ. Telephone 01-709 0472.

WARDEN MANOR OPEN 1971, July 3 to September 11. Host/Leader John Cole. This year spend a holiday at Warden in happy Toc H fellowship amidst lovely countryside, overlooking the sea. Entertainments and games (putting, table tennis, etc) free. Bathing at Warden Bay nearby. Garage available. Bus service direct from Sheerness station to Manor door. No increase in price: cost £8.75 to £9.75 per week, inclusive (four meals daily). Book now. Write: Warden Manor, Eastchurch, nr Sheerness, Kent. Tel: Eastchurch 238.

RAISE FUNDS QUICKLY, EASILY. Superb ball-pens, combs, brushes, etc, gold-stamped branch name. Details: Northern Novelties, Bradford 2.



BRUGES, BELGIUM. Hotel Jacobs welcomes Toc H parties and individual visitors to this lovely old city. Within easy reach of other famous cities of art, and of coast. Good food and comfortable accommodation in friendly atmosphere. Pleasant restaurant, bar and lounge. Parking. English spoken. Strongly recommended. Write for brochure

and terms to Mr Jules Lietaert, HOTEL JACOBS, Ballestraat 1, Bruges, Belgium.

GUERNSEY C.I. Good homely fare in Toc H family. H & C in all rooms. Midweek bookings accepted. Terms bb and em £10.50 per week. Mrs P Saunders, Petherton, Tertre Lane, Vale. Tel: 44756 (std 0481)



HOTEL LYBEER has been a centre for Toc H members since 1945. Charles, a Toc H Builder and well known to many members, welcomes parties and individuals. Charles Vanhove, Hotel Lybeer, Korte Vulderstraat 31, Bruges, Belgium.

STAFF VACANCIES, GERMANY. Assistant Wardens (male) required for Toc H Services Clubs in Germany. Aged between 21 and 45. Must be car drivers, and preferably Toc H members. Also a married couple (age limit 60). Details from Eric Barrington, Toc H Commissioner, BAOR, 15 Trinity Square, London EC3N 4BS.

WOMAN MEMBER offers holiday/convalescence, ground floor accommodation, either sex. Apply: Miss Tweedale, 'Conyers', St Mildred's Road, Minster, Ramsgate, Kent.

better the deed...

Last year less than 2,000 members covenanted their giving to Toc H. These deeds produced a total income for the Family Purse and for their branches of £21,000, of which £8,800 was tax recovered.

If in future half the membership covenanted at this level 7,500 members would produce an assured long term income of £74,600, of which £28,850 would be tax recovered.

In 1971 each branch should aim to get at least 50 per cent of its members to sign covenants.

Ask your district or area treasurer for a covenant form now.

Yours is the Glory

Patterns of prayer in TocH



Published this month :

This eagerly awaited anthology is unique in its combination of well-loved prayers and hymns from the past with modern material that has proved its value at Dor Knap and elsewhere. The book will be invaluable to those responsible for conducting family prayers or for compiling services for special occasions. It will also be widely used as a basis for private prayer and meditation.

Order your copy now

Yours is the Glory costs 35p (plus 5p postage) and is available from :

Toc H Publications Dept.,
15 Trinity Square,
London EC3N 4BS